

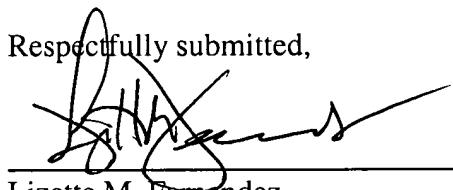
**REMARKS**

Applicants have amended the specification to acknowledge that this invention is supported with U.S. government funding. No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Pursuant to the above amendment and remarks, allowance of the pending application is believed to be warranted. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to directly contact the undersigned if such contact may enhance the efficient prosecution of this application to issue.

Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 authorization payment in the amount of \$3061.00.00 (\$370 filing fee; \$2571 additional claims fee; \$65 Declaration surcharge; \$55 Extension of Time fee) is included herewith. This amount is believed to be correct. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX MISSING PARTS, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below.

  
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Lizette M. Fernandez

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Date

2/5/03